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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
Office of Current Intelligence
12 September 1965

INTELLIGENCE MEMORANDUM

The India-Pakistan Situation
(Report #33 - As of 4:00 P.M. EDT)

1. The situation in the Sialkot area, some 60 miles north of Lahore, is clouded by conflicting claims. Both New Delhi and Rawalpindi agree that heavy fighting, which included the use of considerable amounts of armor, occurred in that area on 12 September. Both sides claim the enemy has lost over 50 tanks in the Sialkot fighting during the past 48 hours. In the Lahore sector, New Delhi claims that its long-stalled advance is again underway. As usual, the Pakistanis deny the Indian claim and insist that the enemy has been hurled back with heavy losses.

2. Indian reports from Kashmir state that the Uri-Poonch bulge on the Pakistani side of the cease-fire line has been eliminated by a link-up of troops advancing from both north and south. India claims to have inflicted heavy casualties and captured large stores of arms and ammunition. Control of the 150 square mile bulge not only eliminates one of the major staging bases from which Pakistani infiltrators moved into the Vale, but also improves Indian lines of communication along the southern sector of the cease-fire line, particularly in the Poonch sector. Indian possession of the bulge also poses a potential threat to Pakistan lines of communication. Indian attacks from Uri across the cease-fire line on 26 August triggered Pakistani attacks in the Chhamb sector and the subsequent spiral of escalation.

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3. There is no significant change in relations between India and East Pakistan. New Delhi, however, continues to allege that Pakistani forces are firing mortars and machine guns across the line.

4. Pakistan continues to seek assistance from other Muslim countries. A Pakistani Embassy spokesman in Cairo said Iraqi President Arif, while on his way to attend the Arab Heads of State Conference in Casablanca, had told a Pakistani diplomat in Cairo that Iraq pledged "full support" for Pakistan.

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5. The Iranian Ambassador to Pakistan has gone to Tehran for two-day emergency consultations with his government. He is expected to confer with the Shah and will presumably present new Pakistani requests for military assistance. The Iranian Government, allied to Pakistan, has been seeking some means of sending effective assistance to its ally.

6. There have been no reports on the outcome of U Thant's conversations with Indian leaders on 12 September. Meanwhile, reports from Pakistan continue to emphasize that government's insistence that any cease-fire include a self-operating agreement for implementation of the UN resolution of 1949; i.e., provision for a plebiscite in Kashmir. For the first time, a Pakistani Foreign Office spokesman has suggested that some cease-fire arrangement with India along lines of the Rann of Kutch Agreement may be possible. New Delhi, however, has consistently refused to agree that the Rann of Kutch Agreement could have any application to the Kashmir problem.

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